

To: Sutter County Grand Jury and Honorable Susan E. Green, Presiding Judge

From: Dr. Francisco Reveles, Yuba County Superintendent of Schools

Date: July 2, 2020

Yuba County Office of Education will take the following actions in response to the F3 and R3 findings in the Tri-County Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility and the Maxine Singer Youth Guidance Center report:

- 1) A new position, Prevention Assistant – Youth Employability Program (YEP), under the supervision of the Youth Advocate Coordinator, will support the implementation of goals set forth in the county YEP program and ensure that those goals and measurable outcomes are met (see attached YEP Program summary).
- 2) The Youth Advocate and Career Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator will collaborate to provide opportunities for incarcerated youth to attend CTE course offerings at Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School (YCCPCS), when jointly approved by Probation and YCCPCS administration. Hands-on CTE course offerings include:
 - Veterinary Technician
 - Auto Mechanics
 - Auto Body & Paint
 - Welding
 - Aquaponics/Wildlife & Sustainable Ecosystems
- 3) CTE course offerings at Harry P. B. Carden School have been expanded to include the following on-line CTE pathways:
 - Architecture, Planning & Environmental Design
 - Arts, Culture & Entertainment
 - Business
 - Communications
 - Communications
 - Education
 - Engineering & Computer Science
 - Environment
 - Government
 - Health & medicine
 - Law & Public Policy
 - Sciences-Biological & Physical
 - Social Impact/Community Service

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SUTTER

The Y.E.P (Youth Employment Program) at the Yuba County Office of Education is a college and career readiness program designed to assist youth at Yuba County court and community schools to obtain employment and/or enter the college system to increase their chances of becoming socio-economically successful. The Y.E.P program is a three-tiered system based on the MTSS (multi-tiered system and supports) model. All services provided are based on an evaluation process. A student can be evaluated for services by school staff, probation officer, counselor, or Tri-County Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility staff. The evaluation form is a scored point system that is based on the student's county of residence, credits, behavior, academics, and grade level.

Once a student has been evaluated the Youth Advocate appropriately places the student in the corresponding tier. Tier services are based on the tiered chart below.

TIER I Foundational Services	
Tier I students consist of all students that will universally receive the same interventions and support services regardless of engagement. <i>Services:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resume development workshops • U.S Armed Services presentations • College information presentations • Vocational school presentations • Career exploration workshops 	
TIER II Targeted Services	
Tier II students consist of students displaying positive engagements that will receive additional services correlating to interest and engagement. <i>Services:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mock interviews • College campus and program tours • Vocational school and program tours • Career portfolio workshops • Career targeted workshops • Community service activities 	
TIER III Intensive Services	
Least Engaged	Most Engaged
Tier III non-engaged students will receive services to encourage, promote, and support engagement. <i>Services:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One on one mentoring • Group workshops • One on one coaching • Behavioral support 	Tier III services are provided to the most engaged and motivated students in pursuit to college and/or career pathways. <i>Services:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic goal plan coaching • Employment services (W.I.O.A) • College registration assistance • Vocational school registration assistance • Employment internships

Brendon Messina
Youth Advocate Coordinator
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CALIFORNIA CODES
PENAL CODE
SECTION 925-933.6

933. (c) No later than 90 days after the grand jury submits a final report on the operations of any public agency subject to its reviewing authority, the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge of the superior court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body, and every elected county officer or agency head for which the grand jury has responsibility pursuant to Section 914.1 shall comment within 60 days to the presiding judge of the superior court, with an information copy sent to the board of supervisors, on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of that county officer or agency head and any agency or agencies which that officer or agency head supervises or controls. In any city and county, the mayor shall also comment on the findings and recommendations. All of these comments and reports shall forthwith be submitted to the presiding judge of the superior court who impaneled the grand jury. A copy of all responses to grand jury reports shall be placed on file with the clerk of the public agency and the office of the county clerk, or the mayor when applicable, and shall remain on file in those offices. One copy shall be placed on file with the applicable grand jury final report by, and in the control of the currently impaneled grand jury, where it shall be maintained for a minimum of five years.

933.05. (a) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Section **933**, as to each grand jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:

(1) The respondent agrees with the finding.

(2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefore.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Section **933**, as to each grand jury recommendation, the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions:

(1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

(2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation.

(3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

(4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefore.

(c) However, if a finding or recommendation of the grand jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a county agency or department headed by an elected officer, both the agency or department head and the board of supervisors shall respond if requested by the grand jury, but the response of the board of supervisors shall address only those budgetary or personnel matters over which it has some decision-making authority. The response of the elected agency or department head shall address all aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her agency or department.

(d) A grand jury may request a subject person or entity to come before the grand jury for the purpose of reading and discussing the findings of the grand jury report that relates to that person or entity in order to verify the accuracy of the findings prior to their release.

(e) During an investigation, the grand jury shall meet with the subject of that investigation regarding the investigation, unless the court, either on its own determination or upon request of the foreperson of the grand jury, determines that such a meeting would be detrimental.

(f) A grand jury shall provide to the affected agency a copy of the portion of the grand jury report relating to that person or entity two working days prior to its public release and after the approval of the presiding judge. **No officer, agency, department, or governing body of a public agency shall disclose any contents of the report prior to the public release of the final report.**

Tri-County Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility and the Maxine Singer Youth Guidance Center

SUMMARY

California Penal Code 919(b) mandates that the Grand Jury shall inquire into the condition and management of the public prisons which includes Juvenile Detention Facilities in the county. To meet that requirement, the 2019-20 Sutter County Grand Jury (SCGJ) conducted an inspection of the Tri-County Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility and the Maxine Singer Youth Guidance Center on September 3, 2019. The SCGJ found that while the facilities are old, they are well kept except for two minor repairs that need to be addressed. A new complex, which will replace both facilities, is expected to be completed in 2022.

While conducting many interviews, the SCGJ determined the staff are dedicated to continuing the implementation of programs designed to motivate the youth and support rehabilitation. The school curriculum, provided by the Yuba County Office of Education (YCOE), is accredited and meets the requirements taught in schools statewide. The “Life Skills” and technical/vocational training being taught are lacking and need to be improved upon. The YCOE was successful in applying for and receiving a grant to implement two new programs, the “Hall 2 Home” and the Mentoring program, which will be beneficial to both the youth and the community.

BACKGROUND

The Tri-County Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (Juvenile Hall) and the Maxine Singer Youth Guidance Center (Camp Singer) are found at 1023 14th Street in Marysville, California. Both facilities supply Juvenile Detention Service to the counties of Sutter, Yuba and Colusa.

The Yuba County Probation Department is the primary agency responsible for the administration, staffing, care and safety of housed juveniles and the day to day operations of both facilities. The costs, however, are shared by Sutter County (44%), Yuba County (44%) and Colusa County (12%). There are nine other counties that contract with both the Juvenile Hall and Camp Singer on an as needed basis. These other counties pay \$4,000 per month per youth when housed in Juvenile Hall or Camp Singer. Both facilities are governed by the Board of State & Community Corrections (BSCC). Both facilities meet and adhere to the strict criteria set forth by the BSCC.

Juvenile Hall has a maximum capacity of 60 youths aged 12-18 years, 45 beds for temporary detention in the Juvenile Hall Building and a 15 bed Secure Housing Unit (SHU). The building was built in the 1940's and

renovated in 1976. Camp Singer was built in 1996 and is a minimum-security facility, next to the Juvenile Hall, with a maximum capacity of 60 youths aged 12-18 years in a dorm like setting. Both facilities will be replaced by a new +/- 20,080 sq. ft. complex and will be located across the street from their current location. At the time this report was written bids were being accepted and the projected date of completion is 2022.

METHODOLOGY

Tours:

- Juvenile Hall
- Camp Singer

Research:

- County of Yuba Juvenile Justice Plans 2019 - 2020
- Tri-County Juvenile Hall Orientation Manual
- County of Sutter 2019 – 2020 Recommended Budget
- Yuba.org PREA chart
- Senate Bill 81
- BSCC Title 15 Minimum Standards
- Western Association of Schools and colleges (WASC) Accreditation
- Joint Power Agreement - JPA
- BSCC Inspection dated March 4, 2020
- PREA Policies and Procedures
- Prior Grand Jury reports from various counties
- Newspaper articles from the Appeal Democrat and the Territorial Dispatch

Interviews:

- Juvenile Hall administration
- Juvenile Hall staff
- Camp Singer staff
- Male and Female youths confined at both the Juvenile Hall and Camp Singer
- Yuba County Office of Education staff
- Sutter County Probation staff

DISCUSSION

On September 3, 2019, the SCGJ toured both facilities with staff administration. Taking into consideration that construction for the new facility will begin soon, the Grand Jury found two areas of concern. One being the carpet in the girl's dormitory in Juvenile Hall, which is torn and old. The second area of concern was signs of water seepage in some of the masonry walls in both buildings, however, we were informed that the walls are being waterproofed to control the problem. Both facilities are secure and provide a safe environment for both the staff and the youths. We learned that a new security camera system and a new telephone system were installed and working. Both systems will be used in the new complex when it is operational.

In the past five years there have been many changes to the laws that directly affect the Juvenile Detention Facilities in the state of California. The staff at the Sutter County Juvenile Hall and Camp Singer have done an admirable job of instituting and adhering to those changes. Standard staffing for both facilities includes 25 Juvenile Correction Officers (JCO) and 7 Supervising JCO's. In addition to the correctional officers, the facility is staffed by registered nurses, full time mental health counselors, full time clerical staff, a doctor, teachers and kitchen workers.

The Grand Jury was impressed with the philosophy of the staff members of both facilities. The staff treats the youth with respect and gives guidance. Staff strive to supply these kids the tools and support they need to succeed when they are released from juvenile hall. They do not want to see these youth become incarcerated adults. The staff uses a Positive Behavior Incentive Support (PBIS) program (Appendix 1). This program motivates the youth with positive behavior by giving the youths' "points" they can earn and use to buy snacks and sundry items. They can also use the points for a private meeting room for family to visit and bring outside meals. The youth's mental well-being is important and we commend the mental health program for providing a wide range of services to help all the youths with the many aspects they must deal with in such a difficult time in their lives.

The staff receive training on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). PREA sets stringent rules and regulations about any type of sexual interaction and creates a secure, safe and culturally sensitive environment. While researching this area, the Grand Jury became aware of an alleged "inappropriate incident" that was rumored to have happened at the Juvenile Hall involving a teacher and a student. The Grand Jury investigated the alleged incident and concluded that the allegations were unfounded.

The Yuba County Office of Education (YCOE) handles the curriculum at both facilities. YCOE is a licensed education provider that receives accreditation through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Courses include the same as taught in regular (age proper) schools in the Tri-County area. Students can get a High School Diploma or a General Educational Development (GED). In addition, college courses are

available with the proper credits applied to the student's educational history. Teachers are hired through the YCOE and all meet the strict standards set forth by the YCOE. Basic "Life Skills" (personal finances and how to fill out job applications/resumes) are taught at both facilities. The Grand Jury felt the subjects are limited and should include money management, food and nutrition knowledge, hygiene care and pregnancy awareness & management to increase the student's knowledge and awareness of Life Skills needed to survive in today's society. Camp Singer also provides training that includes basic tool knowledge, carpentry and gardening/lawn care. The Grand Jury finds the careers in technical/vocational training limited and more should be available such as culinary, auto repair, welding, (etc.).

YCOE recently received a million-dollar BSCC Title 11 Grant to develop and implement a combination "Hall 2 Home" (H2H) and "Mentoring" Programs. "The H2H program provides wraparound services to transitioning youth entering and exiting from the Tri-County Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (TCJRF) to their community of residence. Services include individual and family therapy, parent training (behavior management, communication, daily scheduling, etc.), intensive case management including referral, school placement, and linkage to community resources (Appendix 2)"

YCOE will implement an evidenced based mentoring program which will match juvenile justice involved youth (Mentee) to a positive adult role model (Mentor) to support the safety, social, and emotional needs of the youth. Mentors and mentees will have monthly field trips that incorporate college/career exposure, community services and recreational activities (Appendix 2). The staff at YCOE is excited about these new programs and feel they will greatly help the youths and the community. We commend the YCOE for applying for and implementing these programs.

Exit Interview:

On May 26, 2020 the Sutter County Grand Jury conducted an exit interview with the Tri-County Juvenile Hall Administration to verify our findings. A document provided to the SCGJ, see (Appendix 3), shows the current complete list of Life Skills being offered to the youth. The options now being offered are an improvement compared to the March 10, 2020 description of available Life Skill courses, see attachment #. In light of this improvement the SCGJ rescinds Finding #2 and Recommendation #2. The SCGJ would like to commend the Tri-County Juvenile Hall on the structured and comprehensive Life Skill Programs

FINDINGS

F1. The carpet in the girl's dormitory of Juvenile Hall is old, torn and is presently a health and safety issue.

F2. There lacks a structured and comprehensive “Life Skills” program.

F3. Exposure to technical/vocational career training and opportunities is limited.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Board of Supervisors give approval to replace the carpet or repair and sanitize the current carpet in the Juvenile Hall girl’s dormitory by 12/31/20.

R2. The Yuba County Office of Education develop and implement a structured and comprehensive life skills program that should include money management, food and nutrition knowledge, hygiene care and pregnancy awareness and management by 06/31/21.

R3. The Yuba County Office of Education have in place more training and exposure to the technical/vocational career opportunities available to the youths (i.e.: culinary, plumbing, electrical, military etc.), obtain brochures and other written material describing these careers and their requirements, and assist youth in obtaining further information if they want to pursue a specific goal, by 09/01/21.

REQUIRED RESPONSES

Per Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the Sutter County Grand Jury requests responses as follows:

From the following elected county officials within 60 days:

- Yuba County Office of Education Superintendent respond to F2, F3 and R2, R3

From the following local governing boards within 90 days:

- Sutter County Board of Supervisors: Respond to F1 – F3 and R1 – R3
- Yuba County Board of Supervisors: Respond to F1 – F3 and R1 – R3
- Colusa County Board of Supervisors: Respond to F1 – F3 and R1 – R3

INVITED RESPONSES

The Sutter County Grand Jury invites the following responses:

- Yuba County Chief Probation Officer respond to F1 - F3 and R1 - R3
- Deputy Superintendent of Institutes respond to F1 - F3 and R1 - R3

DISCLAIMER

Reports issued by the Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. California Penal Code section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury will not contain the name of any person or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Grand Jury.

APPENDIX

*Excerpt from page 11 of Tri-County Rehabilitation Facility Orientation Manual

PBIS PROGRAM

Positive Respectful Integrity Dependable Empower
Carden School, and Camp Singer, have created a set of rules and expectations for all youth to follow according to location. You will find the expectations posted in various areas of the facility. When you follow the rules and expectations, you can be recognized.

You will be recognized for appropriate behaviors such as:

- Cooperating and following staff directives
- Using appropriate language and volume
- Keeping your body and belongings to yourself
- Being prepared and managing your time
- Not asking for recognition!!

Tri-County Behavioral Rules & Expectations Room/Bunk

P ositive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use your quiet inside voice • Keep noise levels low • Follow staff's directions
R espectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect other's personal space • Use intercom appropriately
I ntegrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be contraband free • Follow the room standards • Avoid and report vandalism
D ependable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep room neat and orderly • Ask for items at appropriate times
E mpower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take pride in your room • Make your bed and organize room

Have **PRIDE** in all areas of the Facility!



- Behavior expectations are clearly listed on posters located around the facility.
- Staff will teach lessons on behavior expectations.
- Each youth gets a Token Card to track their acknowledgements.

Token Cards:

1	20	29	30	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30
2	TOTAL _____										29
3	NAME _____										28
4	DATE _____										27
5											26
6											25
7											24
8											23
9											22
10											21
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	20	

You will receive a token card daily. Staff will recognize when you're following the expectations by punching a hole in your card. You can turn in your punches on your Token Card for special items from our Pride store.

How to Redeem your Punches?

Staff will collect your Token Cards every night at bedtime and record your amount daily. You will receive order forms on store nights; you will fill them out and return to staff. Orders will be taken Friday and filled overnight. Store nights will be Saturdays, for non-food items, and Sundays for food items. Items will be priced according to value. Punches are earned and will forever remain at the Hall, if you return. Punches will follow you for the Hall to the Camp. If you choose to be removed from the Camp your punches will not move to the Hall with you.

YCOE Lead Agency		
Partnership(s) with the Tri-County Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility, Sutter County Juvenile Probation, Yuba County Juvenile Probation, and Colusa County Juvenile Probation		
	Mentoring Program Probation Referred Youth (15)	Hall 2 Home (H2H) Program All Student in the TCJRF
Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connection to a positive adult mentor • Facilitation of activities • Case management • Pro-social activities • College & Career exposure • Life skills workshops • Team building activities • Academic counseling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitional case plan • Warm hand off to community service providers • Parental support • Case management • College and Career readiness services • School support services • Child, Family, Team meetings • Individual therapy • Family therapy
Program Outcomes	<p>Reduce risk behaviors in youth Targeted interventions and supports will be provided in correlation to reducing criminogenic needs.</p> <p>To improve school performance School support will be provided when transferred to district of residence.</p> <p>To improve pro-social behaviors Youth will participate in mentor/mentee activities that increase pro-social behaviors.</p>	<p>Improve targeted behavior and connection to the community. Targeted interventions and supports will be provided in correlation to reducing criminogenic needs.</p> <p>To reduce recidivism among juvenile offenders Recidivism among individuals will be monitored to provide program outcomes.</p> <p>To improve school performance. School support will be provided when transferred to district of residence.</p>
Program Descriptions	<p>YCOE will implement an evidenced based mentoring program which match juvenile justice involved youth (Mentee) to a positive adult role model (Mentor) to support the safety, social, and emotional needs of the youth. Mentors and mentees will have monthly field trips that incorporate college/ career exposure, community services, and recreational activities.</p>	<p>The H2H program provides wraparound services to transitioning youth entering and exiting from the TCJRF to their community of residence. Services include individual and family therapy, parent training (behavior management, communication, daily scheduling, etc.), intensive case management including referral, school placement, and linkage to community resources.</p>

Facility Life Skill Programs

Provider - Facility Intervention Counselor

Programs every Tuesday and Thursday.

Budgeting - Four 60-minute programs

- Grocery shopping
- Financial Responsibilities of a homeowner
- Simulation budgeting (Pick a job and a home. Created a budget from the information granted)
- Created a budget for which they were the main provider
- Created a budget that included those in their current living situation.

Job Search - Four 60-minute programs

- Identify your job skills
- How to prepare resumes
- How to prepare a resume with no work experience
- How to use volunteer experience on resume
- How to write a cover letter
- How to write an introduction letter
- How to fill out job application
- Mock Interviews

Nutrition - Eight 60-minute programs

- Nutrition Education
- Into to Nutrition
- Impact of diet and Lifestyle on Health
- Achieving Healthy Diet
- Physical Activity and Health
- Eating for your lifestyle
- Healthy Meal Planning
- Food groups how they impact your health
- Portion control

Provider – H.P. Carden School teachers (YCOE)

Program provided each school day.

Budgeting

- Life skills math

Career Readiness

- Career interest survey
- Job research
- Guest speakers
- Career prep
- Senior project

Provider – Yuba Sutter Arts Council (YCOE grant)

Program on Tuesday and Thursday

Exposure to the Arts

- Photography

- Music
- Ceramics

Provider – Facility Medical

Program provided to individuals as requested.

Sex Health

- Sexually transmitted disease information.
- Testing and treatment.

Provider – Facility Staff and Medical

Program information provided daily.

Hygiene

- Oral health and brushing teeth
- Hand washing
- Coughing and sneezing
- Body hygiene
- Grooming and clean attire
- Good sleep habits

Provider – Hall to Home staff

Program involved youth receive services weekly.

Transition back to community

- Positive community engagement opportunities
- Job and vocational skill building
- Completion of high school credits or General Education (GED) requirements

Provider – Yuba County Public Health

Program occurs once a month on Tuesday.

Health and Wellness

- Tobacco Education Program
- Local Oral Health Program
- Emergency Preparedness
- Adolescent Family Life Program

Provider – Facility Kitchen staff

Program 80 hours over four-week period.

Youth culinary program

- Healthy Nutrition
- Quantity food preparation
- Meal service
- Proper sanitation and safety practices
- Effective communication
- Quality customer service
- Receiving deliveries
- Basic baking skills
- ServSafe certificate

Provider – YCOE/First 5/Sutter Co Children & Families Commission

Program occurs weekly on Thursday.

Best Parenting via Zoom

- Child Development

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Mar 5, 2020 at 3:48 PM
Subject: RE: Sutter County Grand Jury Inquiry
To: [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

The Camp has a gentleman from the Bayside Church program who comes in regularly to teach life skills. His main focus is finances. We also have a Yuba County Office of Education staff member who provides One Stop employment information and helps Youth with filling out job applications and resumes. We are working toward a more formalized life skills training program through Sutter Yuba Behavioral Health as well.

Yuba County Health and Human Services' Public Health Division provides some life skills to Juvenile Hall and Camp Youth in the form of emergency preparedness, oral health, tobacco education, and AFLP (Adolescent Family Life Program).

Please let me know if anything else is needed. Take care. [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 2:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Sutter County Grand Jury Inquiry

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

I have what I hope is an easy and quick question for you. As we are writing our report regarding Juvenile Hall and Camp Singer we found that we would like more detailed information/descriptions of the life skills that are being taught at both the hall and camp. Would you be able to help with this? Or can you put me in contact with whomever might be best answering this question? I thought I would attempt to get this information through an email so as to not take up to much of your or your staff's time.

Thank you again for you assistance!

[REDACTED]